

# THE COMET.

EIGHTH YEAR.

JOHNSON CITY, TENN., THURSDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 19, 1891.

WHOLE NO. 395.

## A FIENDISH MOTHER.

### An English Woman Ill-Treats Her Children,

And When Summoned to Answer for Her Conduct,

Defies the Law, Murders Her Children and Suicides.

LONDON, Nov. 16.—A most shocking and brutal crime has been committed at Titchfield-With Crofton, a town of about 4,500 inhabitants in the county of Hants, noted as being the site of Titchfield House, where Charles I was concealed after his escape from Hampton Court in 1647.

It appears that a complaint was made some time since against a certain woman resident of the town that she was ill treating her children, and a summons was issued ordering her to appear at Titchfield assizes to answer the charge made against her. The woman was infuriated when the summons was served upon her, and declared no court in England could compel her to answer its summons. No attention was paid to her ravings, as it was believed when her indignation subsided she would recognize the futility of attempting to resist the mandate of the court. But the woman was determined not to heed the summons by answering it, and so she re-entered her apartments, called her three children about her and then, in spite of their struggles to escape, cut their throats. After making sure that the terrible work was complete and that the three girls were dead, the woman turned the weapon against herself.

A horrible sight met the gaze of the persons who entered the room after the deed had been committed. The bodies of the girls, their clothes saturated with the blood that had flowed from the gaping wounds of their necks, were lying on the floor in pools of blood, while close beside was their mother and murderess. The woman was alive, but the wound in her throat was such a terrible one and she had lost so much blood that little if any hopes are entertained of her recovery.

#### An Aged Hermit.

KEOKUK, IA., Nov. 17.—A short distance west of Alexander, Mo., lives a man between 50 and 60 years old, who has been leading the life of a hermit for thirty years. His home is in a cave under a large rock in the side of a steep hill. His only companions are books and periodicals and papers with which he keeps plentifully supplied. His cave is neatly furnished with shelves containing many of the works of the most noted authors. He refuses to divulge his name or his past life further than to say that his family was one of wealth and influence in a Southern State before the war and that his father served with distinction as an officer of the Confederacy. He is educated, refined and usually well posted on current events. Asked why he adopted such a life, he said it was simply a matter of choice, not because of failure in business, love or ingratitude of friends or relatives. He receives few visitors, but those he does receive are delightfully entertained.

#### MILITIA MEN'S MONEY.

##### Nashville Captain Charged With Misappropriating His Company's Pay.

NASHVILLE, Nov. 17.—The case against Capt. Robt. Horn, of the Rock City Guards, Company G. N. S. G., who was arrested Saturday on a charge of fraudulently appropriating the money of members of the company received for services during the Briceville troubles, was continued before Justice R. H. Page today until next Friday. It is understood that Capt. Horn is making an effort to arrange matters with those interested and that in this event, the warrant will be withdrawn. There is considerable feeling manifested among the members of the company and a meeting was held tonight at the armory.

Tommy—"Pa, may I ask you a question?" Pa—"Certainly, my child." Tommy—"Where is the wind when it doesn't blow?"

## ROASTED HIMSELF.

### Voluntary Cremation of a Young Man—His Wonderful Courage.

WILKESBARRIE, PENN., Nov. 17.—Wm. Ruddy, a young man aged 26 years, committed suicide in the most sensational manner at his home in this city this morning. It is alleged that Ruddy came home and found that his mother had drunk to excess, and this so troubled him that he resolved to make away with himself. He engaged in some hot words with his mother, who replied mockingly. Driven to desperation by his mother's words, Ruddy poured coal oil over himself, and by thrusting his hand into the fire, became enveloped in flames. He then seized a sharp knife and stabbed himself over the heart, inflicting a wound that would in itself result fatally. He was terribly burned, his flesh hanging in shreds, and in a short time death ended his excruciating suffering.

The flames from his clothing soon set fire to the interior of the dwelling and the fire department was called out, the structure being saved after some rapid work.

#### Family Prayer.

A gentleman who has been traveling over the country for several years, raises to remark about many things which he observed. To notice closely the doings and customs of people is education of an important type, and he who is fortunate as to be thrust out upon the great earth in a traveling occupation is the man who knows a good thing when he sees it. And again, if there is a bad thing or two he observes them. This gentleman has spent the last eight months in East Tennessee, during which time he spent a night each with more than four hundred families. Now, in this number how many do you suppose he would find who hold family prayers? Well, if you have attended class meetings and love feasts, you would say about 250, but that is not the case. The family altar is not quite so prominent away from the love feasts. In that period of eight months he heard only one prayer offered up. How does that speak for the Christian spirit of East Tennessee? It seems a small item, but is far above the average. In the several years of this gentleman's travels, he heard but one prayer of the kind before he reached East Tennessee, eight months ago. Say that the time spent outside of East Tennessee amounted to seven years, then the proportion would be gratifyingly in favor of our people, for we would have ten prayers to their one, and yet have nothing to brag on. The truth of it is, this is a time for money, and if men believed there was any ready money in prayer, the hills would echo with praise and the branches would become astounded and start back against Mr. Gravitation until he would be all over damp.

#### A Praiseworthy Act.

Who says that a sewing machine agent has no heart? In answer to a notice in yesterday morning's COMET Mr. C. O. Rogers, special collector of the Davis sewing machine company, sent Messrs. Fishback & Wiegner an order to send the destitute family a large supply of bread which we are glad to say came very acceptably to the needy family. G. W. Dillard, general agent of the Davis sewing machine company for East Tennessee, also opened his heart and sent the above family a supply of potatoes. Meat was also sent by another gentleman. There has been no begging. The family is willing to work, but sickness has made hard times.

There are many kind hearts in Johnson City as evidenced by those who are inquiring what is needed by the poor family alluded to above. We often hear it said "No one reads the papers," but the little notice given by the COMET yesterday has been read, and already the good Samaritans of Johnson City are at work. Don't tell us no one reads the papers.

#### Four of a Kind.

At Baker Hill, Indiana, Sunday night, Mrs. Edgar George gave birth to four fully developed girls. One died and the rest and mother are doing well.

## A DEADLY BULLET

### Terminates a Postmaster's Life.

Parties Suspected of the Crime Under Arrest,

But as Yet Who Fired the Fatal Shot is Not Known.

MOUNT AIRA, GA., Nov. 17.—Albert Church, postmaster of this town, was shot and killed Sunday night about 8:30 o'clock. It seems from what can be gathered that he was at or near a house of ill fame when he received the shot which caused his death. The shooting occurred about 100 yards from the depot.

As soon as Mr. Church found out that he was shot he started back toward the postoffice, but seeing a light in the depot he turned and went up the steps at the end of the platform and went to the door and tried to unbolt the door. He then went around the corner of the office to the window, and knocked on the window a few times and called out "Mac, Mr. Mac, Mr. Mac, I am killed." He then turned off, but only got about 125 feet away when he fell over an embankment ten feet high, near Capp & Kemsey's store. Working himself off twenty-five or thirty feet further he fell in a ditch, where he died and remained until this morning.

Mr. McCubin, the railroad agent, raised the alarm and soon had a party hunting the unfortunate man, but failed to find him. He naturally supposed he was not dangerously hurt and had gone home. It was not known until this morning who the victim was.

A young Atlanta man by the name of Sam Hassel came up on the noon train Sunday to pay a woman of bad repute a visit. He and two or three young men went to the house and demanded that the door be opened, but were refused, at which time they broke the door down and commenced cursing and slashing with their knives. The woman of the house received a slight stab in the side. She told her daughter, Martha Scott, to shoot them. Martha seized a pistol and shot twice in the air, she claimed, to scare the boys off. Another shot rang out in about twenty seconds, which is claimed by the woman to have been outside of the house and was the fatal shot which took effect in Mr. Church's throat, striking the jugular vein.

The coroner has arrived and there will not be any verdict rendered before tomorrow. All the parties who are supposed to have been in the fracas are under arrest. Everything possible is being done to get the guilty one.

#### A Young Astor.

Sunday morning last there was born to Mr. and Mrs. John Jacob Astor, at their home in New York city a son. This child is of the fifth generation and will inherit \$150,000,000. That will be a handsome little fortune if the child does not smoke it up in cigarettes before he reaches sixteen years of age.

#### Nice For Christmas.

There is not a prettier and more valuable Christmas present anywhere than THE COMET's handsome \$500 piano. The lady who gets it will be made exceedingly happy and will cleave to him who was kind enough to vote for her with all the music of her soul. The interest in the contest is beginning to wax warm. The maidens tremble with fear and look with hope to the future. They measure the kindness of their admirers by their voting capacity.

One word with regard to the ore: It ovened better than we expected. It is mostly hematite; but there are some brown ores. As to the quantity, well, so far as our experience goes, and so far as the development has gone, there appears to be no reason for the present generation troubling themselves on this point. Our manager reports that the ores are well within the Bessemer limits. Exclusive of the ores which we shall require to burn in our own furnace, we shall be able to sell surplus ore at the rate of 100 tons to 200 tons a day.—Hon. H. H. Bland, Director of the Embreville Freehold, Land, Iron and Railway Company, at a recent meeting of stockholders in London.

## Fall Branch.

Little Hugh Wells is suffering from phthisis at present.

Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Moulton spent last Sunday with T. M. Wells.

Jas. Taylor and a couple of other drummers spent last Sunday in the city.

T. L. Murrell who has been in Missouri for a week or so, returned to his home last week.

Miss Bettie Draper spent last Saturday night at Mrs. Betsey Barnes' on Horse Creek.

Rev. G. B. Draper preached an interesting sermon at the M. E. Church, South, last Sunday.

The Messrs. Campbell, of Abingdon, Va., have been in the vicinity for a week looking after their logging interests.

A. L. Morgan left here last Saturday to visit his relative, Mrs. Hannah Morgan, of Mossy Creek. He will be gone a week or ten days.

Mrs. Fannie Hopper, of Hawkins county, who has been visiting her father-in-law, R. M. Hopper, of this place returned to her home last Saturday.

Several of the members and patrons of the school of this place met at the building last Saturday, and built a woodshed of considerable proportions. This is quite an improvement.

Mr. Jno. H. Hopper, who has been living in his father's residence for some time, moved into the Crouch property last Saturday.

Rev. Hodge, the Northern Methodist circuit rider, moved into the house vacated by Mr. Hopper. We hope "Johnny" will like his new home.

Dr. George R. Duncan tapped Bettie Hays, colored, of Swanay, Greene county, on last week for ovarian dropsy, removing eight gallons of fluid. This makes the third time he has tapped her in the last four months, removing nine and a half gallons the first time; seven and a half the second, and eight the third time, making twenty-five gallons in all.

Miss Tomie Duncan, the accomplished daughter of S. V. Duncan, of Pleasantville, Ia., who has been visiting her uncle, Dr. Geo. R. Duncan, of this place, and other relatives on Chucky River, in Bristol, Fordtown and Greenville for the past three months, left last Tuesday for her home in Iowa, accompanied by her cousin, Master Willie E. Duncan. Miss Tomie made many friends while here, who very much regretted to see her leave. Dr. Geo. R. Duncan accompanied them as far as Greenville, returning on Wednesday.

O. R. D.

#### Caught at Last.

Will Lane, who has been changing the mails at Jonesboro for some time, and who was always regarded as a clever, harmless boy, has made a dark future for himself. It was noticed by the agent that small amounts of money kept going from the depot safe. He suspected Lane as being the only possible robber, and on the suspicion he was arrested by Sheriff Hawkins the latter part of the week. A key to the safe was found on Lane's person, and he confessed his crime to the sheriff. Whereupon he was lodged in jail to answer at the next term of the circuit court. He can not easily evade the penalty. He might have known that it was only a matter of time when he would be called to answer. Many a young man makes the fatal mistake which he has made to gratify a desire for what men nowadays are inclined to term the one thing needful.

#### Box-Car Theft.

Some person or persons who stood in need of a supply of earthly goods broke into a freight car in the E. T. & W. N. C. yards Monday night and robbed it of quite an amount of dry goods and other valuable things. A part of the goods were discovered under the coal pen yesterday. Such intruders and the guilty will no doubt have to suffer. It's a sly fox that's not caught up with.

Chippie—"I am sorry to find that my ancestors were not always in the swim." Cholly—"You surprise me." Chippie—"Yas. At the time of Noah they were in the ark."—Harper's Bazar.

## DAVE MORRISON JAILED.

### The Defaulting Clerk Pulled in Hawkins County Saturday.

David Morrison, defaulting county clerk of Scott county, Va., was arrested Sunday sixteen miles north of Rogersville, Tenn., by Deputy Sheriff Fernandez, of Hawkins county, and Henry B. Clay, Jr.

It will be remembered that his default and subsequent flight last spring was a nine days sensation in Gate City, and throughout Southwestern Virginia, where he was well known. By some hook or crook he managed to get away with some \$30,000 of the people's money. A reward of \$1,000 was offered for his capture at the time.

Saturday afternoon he arrived at Rogersville Junction from San Antonio, Texas.

Since his departure from Gate City he has traveled throughout the Western States and only left San Antonio, Texas, a few days ago. He is in full health and but for his whiskers would appear to be the same jolly Dave Morrison of old.—Courier.

#### At the Opera House Tonight.

Tonight James Albert Green, the noted lecturer and journalist, will appear in the opera house in his popular lecture—"Views Afoot in Ireland." His is the first of a proposed series of brilliant entertainments for the season. If you go to hear him you may expect to be entertained as well as to be instructed. It will be an evening with the Irish people, rich in legendary history and descriptive of natural scenery.

#### Enjoyable Stew.

There was an enjoyable candy stew at Captain Miller's residence Thursday night. Some of the young people were in attendance, and they report an unusually good time. There were present Misses Margie Miller, Annie Gentry, Eliza, Effie, and Sue Wood and Neil and Belle Miller and Messrs. W. B. Harrison, Frank St. John, T. E. Hurst, Walter Martin, L. W. Wood and — Miller.

#### PERSONALS.

James Taylor, Jr. of Chucky Valley, is in the city.

Sheriff Hawkins was up from Jonesboro yesterday.

Mayor Jobe has returned from a visit to Bristol.

C. W. Carr went to Sweetwater, Tenn., last night.

Mrs. Phoebe Burleson has returned home from Norfolk.

Albert Truslow, of Bristol, spent Sunday last in the city.

Miss Ida Reeves, of Jonesboro, is visiting at C. K. Lide's.

Judge Curtin, of Bluff City, came down yesterday morning.

H. W. Hargreaves went to Chattanooga yesterday on No. 1.

Col. Wofford and Mrs. P. H. Wofford went up to Bristol last evening.

W. B. Harrison left yesterday on a visit to home folks and friends at Lebanon, Kentucky.

Judge S. J. Kirkpatrick passed through the city yesterday on his return home from Chancery Court at Erwin.

W. D. Biddle and W. D. Gass, two of Knoxville's rival grocery drummers were in town yesterday showing up their advantages.

Mrs. T. N. Remine and children, after a visit of more than a week to Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Remine, returned yesterday to their home at Limestone.

Mrs. Burney Burleson has gone to Bristol where she will spend the winter with her husband, who is doing the business hustling for the Bristol News.

Henry T. Cook, the agent for the Co-operative Town Company, returned from Knoxville yesterday morning and took the early train for Elizabethton.

#### Ex-Treasurer Suicides.

MOUNT AIRY, N. C., Nov. 17.—Wm. Beaman, ex-treasurer of Carroll County, Va., committed suicide today by shooting himself through the head with a pistol. He failed of election recently, had not settled his account with the county and his inability to do so it is believed led to the rash act.

## MERRY MARRIAGE BELLS

### Fashionable Wedding at Elizabethton.

Two Happy Hearts Embark on the Voyage of Life.

The Popular Bride and Groom Receive Many Handsome Gifts.

A fashionable wedding occurred at Elizabethton yesterday at 1:30 p. m. Dr. Heaton, of Bristol, in the presence of a host of friends, united in marriage William H. Thomas and Miss Minnie Folsom. The church was handsomely decorated for the occasion. A most excellent dinner was served at the home of the bride's father.

The bridal presents were numerous and costly. Among the many given were, \$50 in gold by the bride's father, \$25 in gold by Mr. Thomas, brother of the groom, and \$20 in gold by Geo. W. Folsom, of Morristown. There were present from this place Mrs. I. N. Beckner, Mrs. Joseph E. Wade, Mrs. Mary Berry and Dr. and Mrs. Berry. From Bristol there were, Dr. Heaton, M. T. DeVault and E. S. Kindrick. From Morristown, Geo. W. Folsom.

The bridal party came down from Elizabethton in a special car, the interior of which was hung with floral decorations. They took east bound train No. 2 for Washington on a bridal tour.

Mr. Thomas, the groom, is one of Roanoke's young business men, and has many friends to congratulate him on his congenial marriage. The bride is a daughter of Major Folsom, of Elizabethton, and is admired wherever she is known.

THE COMET congratulates the young and happy couple and wishes them much joy in the onward sweep of time.

#### STATE NEWS.

A new postoffice has been established at Mayston, Hamilton County, tell dead while putting on his shoes the other day.

The next new scheme for Chattanooga is a rubber factory, but Atlanta is a formidable rival for that enterprise and our sprightly neighbor may get left.

The pastures, as well as the ranges under the influence of a bountiful supply of moisture, are getting green again, and stock will soon have good grazing.

Dr. Houston, of Decatur County claims to have gathered 130 barrels of corn this season from eight acres of land, or eighty-one and one-fourth bushels per acre.

Since the rain last Monday wheat has taken a new lease on life and is growing rapidly. Owing to the long dry spell, it is believed that few fields will show a fair stand.

A new tobacco factory is to be started at Morristown with a capital of \$10,000. This is the third enterprise of the kind for Morristown, which is getting to be quite a tobacco manufacturing city.

#### TRUSTEE'S SALE.

By virtue of a Trust Deed executed by the Watauga Lumber Company on April 30, 1890, to me as trustee, I will proceed to foreclose same by selling on MONDAY, DEC. 21, 1891, at the court room door in Johnson City, Tenn., the property conveyed in said Trust Deed, which is registered in Trust Book 5, page 180, in the registry at Jonesboro, being the realty (2 3 16 acres, more or less) and the machinery, mill equipments, appurtenances and privileges of the Watauga Lumber Company.

Said sale will be made to pay the trust indebtedness, amounting to six thousand and seventy-three dollars and fifty-seven cents, with interest, the notes representing which are now held by the First National Bank of Chattanooga and the Greene County Bank of Greeneville, and will be on the terms prescribed in the said Trust Deed, to wit: Cash in hand in full the equity of redemption. A trustee deed will be executed to the purchaser. This November 18th, 1891.

J. E. BRADING, Trustee.

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